ST. LOUIS COUNTY SWITCHES TO PAPER BALLOTS

New voting equipment will be used in St. Louis County starting on Nov. 5. The St. Louis County Board of Elections spent $6.9 million on new equipment from Hart InterCivic. The machines use more secure paper ballots with a sophisticated scanning system. Democratic Director of Elections Eric Fey showed members of the St. Louis Area Voter Protection Coalition at the headquarters in St. Ann on Oct. 23.

Fey showed how voters check in with single app poll pads using data and not wi-fi to get last-minute updates to the voter list. Voters will then get voter tickets with a barcode indicating the ballot style to take to a printer to get the proper ballot. The county has about 400 polling places with different ballots for over 1,200 voting precincts.

Most voters will hand mark their choices in squares on the ballot using a pen with blue or black ink. Voters who want help marking their ballots can use an Access Writer available at each polling place that provides visual or audio prompts.

To cast a completed ballot, a voter takes it to a Verity Scan machine that can read both sides of the ballot and verify that it doesn’t have any errors. The American flag icon will indicate success. If the scanner sees a problem, a voter has a choice to submit it or get a new ballot (with the old ballot marked as spoiled).

Results are tabulated at each polling place after voting closes at 7 pm. Poll workers store a USB flash drive with the results. Chain of custody is maintained throughout the process, with one Democrat and one Republican present at all times. Fey described the “sneakernet” he and Republican Director of Elections Rick Stream use to take results on another flash drive from a secure tabulation room with air-gapped computers not connected to the Internet to another room where results are posted online. Since the county is twice the size of any of the other 115 voting jurisdictions with more than 750,000 voters, the Secretary of State’s office takes a screen capture of the county’s web site.

Fey stressed the need for poll workers of both political parties since fewer people now declare a party affiliation. The county needs 1,500 Democrats and 1,500 Republicans for each countywide election. He likes a program that allows high school students to work the polls for service hours or the standard pay of $30 for training and $130 for working from 5 am until after 7 pm on Election Day.

Fey said absentee ballots help reduce the stress on Election Day. About 13,000 voters in the county are now on the permanently disabled list. Those voters receive absentee ballot applications before each election and don’t have to have their ballots notarized. Joan Hubbard questioned the state law that requires other voters to give a reason to request absentee ballots or vote at in-person absentee voting sites.

She chairs the League’s Early Voting Committee that would like the state to switch to no-excuse absentee voting.
PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE: GUIDE TO ADVOCACY

There is so much to keep track of with “breaking news” from Washington, D.C., the economy, environmental issues, health care, voting rights, election reform, our upcoming Centennial Gala, the 2020 Census and so on. I think it would be helpful for us to remember the public policy and legislative priorities that LWV Metro St. Louis has selected for 2019-2020.

Proposition D – Would allow City voters to use “approval voting” in municipal primaries with a two-person run-off in April elections. Prop D calls for an open and non-partisan system to elect the offices of mayor, comptroller, president of the board of aldermen and alderman. In the primary, voters would be able to choose any and all candidates they support, and then the top two candidates would be in a run-off in April.

Medicaid Expansion petition: If enough signatures are gathered by May 2020, voters will have a chance to approve Medicaid expansion in November 2020. The Center for Health Economics and Policy finds that a Medicaid expansion in Missouri is essentially revenue neutral and would create cost savings while providing access to health care for at least 230,000 more people. Continued refusal to expand Medicaid will result in a forfeiture of $1.5 billion annually in federal aid.

Gun Safety: We advocate for legislation to prohibit the sale of assault weapons and expanded magazines. We also advocate for background checks for all gun purchases and regulations to increase consumer safety. Support the gun safety bills passed by the U.S. House by (1) asking our two U.S. senators to urge Senator McConnell to allow a vote on the bills and (2) insist that the senators vote yes on the bills.

Early Voting: No-excuse early voting would increase voters’ options by (1) alleviating long lines and stress on the system on election days, (2) increasing voting opportunities for persons who work long hours and (3) giving election officials more time to address voting problems. Communicate your desire for no excuse early voting to your state senator and state representative.

Vote2020: The scope of this ballot measure may change to increase its popularity. The final petition will include automatic voter registration and no-excuse advance voting. This will be an initiative petition drive to be launched in early 2020.

National Popular Vote Interstate Compact: States in the compact agree to award their electoral votes to the candidate who wins the national popular vote. In this way, each vote counts, resulting in a much fairer way of selecting U.S. presidents than the current Electoral College system.

Environmental Quality: Support policies and legislation that will preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem with maximum protection of public health and the environment. Be ready to respond to action alerts. Continue to support the Missouri Clean Energy Coalition and advocate for actions that will mitigate climate change. Continue to monitor Westlake Landfill and Bridgeton Landfill.

Equal Rights Amendment: Don’t forget that we must continue advocating for passage of the ERA by the Missouri Legislature. The League views the ERA as a natural extension of the League’s support for equal opportunity for all. Write or call your state senator and state representative.

Reproductive Rights: Continue to support women’s right to choose. Support Planned Parenthood and NARAL.

This is indeed a full advocacy plate. It is certainly enough to keep us busy along with everything else.

— Louise T. Wilkerson and Nancy J. Miller, Co-Presidents

Co-Presidents: Nancy J. Miller, Louise T. Wilkerson
First Vice President: Angie Dunlap
Second Vice President: Barbara Harris
Secretary: Nancy Price
Treasurer: Steve Smith
Directors: Angie Dunlap, Eve Golden, Joan Hubbard, Meredith Langlitz, Irma Ruebling, Jennifer Rushing, Anne Sappington, Sydell Shayer, Catherine Stenger, Carol Strawbridge, Sue Williams
Editors: Joan Esserman, Jean Dugan
CELEBRATING THE LEAGUE’S CENTENNIAL

Join us in celebrating the League’s 100th Anniversary on Nov. 13 from 6 to 9 pm with a banquet at the Sheldon Concert Hall Ballroom. We will honor the League’s presidents from the past 100 years. See the list of 21 honorees on Page 4.

The program will be hosted by Betsey Bruce, with music from Carolbeth True and Dawn Weber. Agnes Garino has prepared slideshows with photos from the past 100 years.

Tickets are $100, which includes a family-style dinner from Russo’s and a commemorative wine glass. The deadline to purchase tickets or an ad in the program book is Nov. 4. Dress is cocktail or business formal.

Special thanks to Carrie Chapman Catt sponsor Sydell Shayer; Edna Gellhorn sponsors Gay Gellhorn, Nancy J. Miller, K and Paul Wentzien; and Beatrice Grady sponsors Judith Smart, and Cindy and Chris Wunderlich.

The gala takes the place of this year’s theatre party fundraiser.

SPECIAL EVENT AT HISTORY MUSEUM FOR $100 CLUB MEMBERS

The League is working with the Missouri History Museum on a reception and tour of the Beyond the Ballot: St. Louis and Suffrage exhibit on Sunday, May 3. This special event will be limited to members of the League’s Hundredth Anniversary Hundred Dollar Club. Later that evening, former LWV President Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins will give a public presentation on her book, The Untold Story of Women of Color in the League of Women Voters.

The Centennial Committee is planning several other special events and activities to mark the 100th Anniversary of women’s suffrage in August 1920. Members of the Hundred Dollar Club give a $100 annual tax-deductible donation to support the League’s activities surrounding the Centennial of the League and the 19th Amendment. To join the Hundred Dollar Club, contact the office or go to lwvstl.org/support.
METRO ST. LOUIS CENTENNIAL BANQUET HONOREES

Following are the 21 past Presidents being honored at the November 13 banquet.


Brenda Banjak: President of LWV of Kirkwood/Southwest County from 1977 to 1979.


Nancy Bowser: President of LWV of University City from 1977 to 1979 and LWV of St. Louis and St. Louis County from 2004 to 2005.

Mary K. Brown: President of LWV of St. Louis County from 1989 to 1991.

Kathleen Farrell: President of LWV of Metro St. Louis from 2010 to 2017.

Agnes Garino: President of LWV of Kirkwood from 1975 to 1977, St. Louis County Chairman 1978 to 1979, LWV Metropolitan St. Louis/CIRC from 1981 to 1985.

Gail Heyne-Hafer: President of LWV of St. Louis County from 1995 to 1997.


Elise Joerger: President of LWV of University City and LWV of St. Louis County from 2001 to 2002.

Marjorie Jokerst: President of LWV of St. Louis for 1998.

Linda McDaniel: President of LWV of North County, St. Louis Metro from 2009 to 2017. Served as Vice President of LWV of Missouri and LWVMO President from 1993 to 1997.

Nancy J. Miller: Co-President of LWV of Metro St. Louis since 2017.

Carol Portman: President of LWV of University City from 1975 to 1977. President of LWV of Missouri 1997 to 1999.

Pat Rich: President of LWV of Central St. Louis County from 1975 to 1977 and LWV of Metropolitan St. Louis/CRIC from 1977 to 1981.

Sydell Shayer: An active member since 1957, Sydell was President of LWV Information Service from 1981 to 1982. She was President of LWV of Missouri from 1981 to 1985. She also served on the LWVUS board.

Nancy Ulman Thompson: President of LWV of St. Louis and St. Louis County from 2002 to 2003.

Peggy Vickroy: President of LWV of Metropolitan St. Louis from 1971 to 1973.


Ida West: President of LWV of St. Louis City from 1985 to 1989.

Louise Wilkerson: Co-President of LWV of the League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis since 2017.
We invite our League members to save these dates and plan to join fellow passionate and engaged League leaders for the League’s biennial national gathering. Watch for more information soon.

LWV METRO ST. LOUIS OBSERVER CORPS

The League recently began to officially observe the St. Louis County Council and St. Louis Board of Aldermen in order to follow their actions, educate ourselves about their process and facilitate transparency. Important discussions and decisions are being made on issues such as privatization of the airport, appointments to the Board of Freeholders, tax and land use. The League wants to be able to report on these to our members. Other agencies which might be observed include the St. Charles Board of Aldermen, St. Louis Board of Apportionments, and newly created Board of Freeholders.

If you are interested in becoming an Observer of one of these agencies, please contact Sue Williams, sjwillia43@att.net. We will train you and give you opportunities to practice observing.

— Sue Williams

Members have been busy registering voters at high schools as well as naturalization ceremonies. They even worked in the dark at a Parkway high school when the lights went out.

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE REPORT

The League continues to collect signatures for the Medicaid Expansion petition. If you are interested in collecting signatures, please contact the League office at 314-961-6869 or Irma Ruebling at 314-330-9063.

The Health Care Committee has completed a study on the experience of changes in health care in states in which Medicare was expanded since 2014 and states which have not. We will be sharing our findings beginning next month.
NPV UPDATE

Our NPV Committee is very busy as usual. We are preparing a brochure entitled *Do You Want Your Vote to Matter?* It will be available for members to distribute to friends and group meetings.

We are developing a list of individuals and organizations who are willing to have their names listed as supporters of the National Popular Vote. We hope that League members get motivated to send in a letter to the editor as individuals, not as League members, to one of the many publications in St. Louis.

If you belong to a group that would like to have a program on the National Popular Vote, call the League office. Nancy Price, a member of our board, is the chair of the Speakers Bureau.

On the national front, Virginia is being targeted as the next state to get the NPV compact introduced.

—Sydell Shayer

DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM OF LOIS BLISS

Judith Smart, Raleigh & R. Joanne Wilson, Maxine Gilner, Sue B. Dellbringge, Fred H. Perabo, Barbara & Michael Newmark, Nancy Miller, Julie Behrens, Joseph & Patricia Soraghan, Marsha Clark, Brenda & John Banjak, Jacqueline Carpenter, Ruth M. Powell, Sydell Shayer and Robert Bliss

DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM OF JEANNE MORREL-FRANKLIN

Marsha Clark and the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis Women’s Alliance
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2019 MISSOURI RECYCLING CONFERENCE

During the last week of September, the annual Missouri Recycling Association (MORA) convened here in St. Louis for a three-day conference having three themes: Rethink, Reduce/Reuse, and Recycle Responsibility, each track having multiple concurrent sessions.

Rethink: As we see buildings being demolished around the area, there are many opportunities for resource recovery. Two local companies, Refab and LEDR, are in the business of salvaging quality materials that can be reused in new construction. Buildings built before 1910 are especially coveted for the quality wood planks, stained glass and artisanship.

Mickey Coyle, our LWV champion on environmental issues, was a panelist on how she has participated in sharing efforts with MSD and others. The other panelists, who also gave partnering examples, were from the Missouri Interfaith Power & Light and Missouri Environmental Literacy Board.

Reduce/Reuse: A tour through a glass recycling facility in north city was a revelation. Did you know that glass could be recycled an infinite number of times? That is why it is preferred over aluminum for beverages use. Least preferred is plastic beverage containers because they are made from petroleum, a finite resource. Incidentally, 75 percent of aluminum is still in use today, but the market has tanked due to the automobile industry's shifting away from recycled aluminum; therefore, there's a glut of recycled aluminum in the marketplace at the present time.

Another example of reduce/reuse is in art. A company called Perennial, located at 3762 S. Broadway, offers classes in art projects that are made entirely from recycled materials. Their website lists items they are currently seeking for future projects such as wool sweaters, yarn, belts and large plastic containers. Another St. Louis company, Remains, Inc., takes textiles for shredding or resale.

Recycle Responsibly: A loud and clear message throughout the conference was that the recycling industry has done an inadequate job of educating people about what can be recycled. Worse, the messages have been inconsistent and seem to vary from hauler to hauler. In addition, contamination of collected materials that has caused China and other countries to reject our waste caused panic and false rumors that it now all goes into landfills. Not true. More that 80% of waste collected stays here in the U.S. and is turned into new products. Beth Porter, the keynote speaker, who authored the 2018 book Reduce, Reuse, Reimagine wrote about a time in 1942 when scrap metal scavengers were celebrated with parties and rallies. Nylon stockings became parachutes, cooking fat could make black powder and razor blades could have a new use in machine guns.

Is it time again to get people excited about recycling? Do we need a stronger campaign, a common cause? Everyone can make better choices in what he/she purchases, and how then to dispose of any waste, even food waste. It takes awareness on everyone's part. Think about it and learn all that you can.

— Mary Archer, Environmental Quality committee

ENERGY TIP FOR THE MONTH

Levi’s® stores (and outlets) have recycling boxes where you can drop off any denim from any brand and give your jeans a new life. Many are made into building insulation that is very low in volatile organic compounds.
WELCOME, NEW LEAGUE MEMBERS!

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Patricia Moran and</td>
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VOLUNTEER CORNER

The League depends on many volunteers to accomplish all the tasks we do. Thanks this month to Sue Allen, Marie Andel, Alfrida Anderson, Connie Anthony, Mary Archer, Liz Aurbach, Nicki Batchelor, Cindy Bausola, Julie Behrens, Carolyn Beimdiek, Carole Bendet, Sandy Berthold, Cynthia Biehle, Patricia Bishop, Annetta Booth, Karen Brawn, Lucy Brennan, Stefany Brot, Kathy Brown, Mary Brown, Nicole Burgdorf, Sharon Campione, Christine Capstick, Pam Carmell, Marilyn Chambers, Becky Clausen, Karen Cloyd, Carrie Crompton, Mickey Croyle, Don & Gail Crozier, Alicia Davis, Jill Davis, Joanne Davis, Winifred Deavens, Katie Dionne, Mary Domahidy, Angie Dunlap, Terry Dunlap, Christine Eason, Janet Edwards, Barb Ehnes, Joan Esserman, Kathleen Farrell, Linda Fiehler, Susan Fluegel, Cynthia and Patrick Fox, Cathy Frohlichstein, Julie Gaebe, Gloria Garidel, Agnes Garino, Mary Jo Geary, Eve Golden, Yvette Goods, Margaret Gray, Anne Handley-Fierce, Barbara Harris, Virginia Hartley, Roslyn Harvey, Sheila Hayes, Cathy Heins, Nancy Hirsch, Debby Howard, Joan Hubbard, Lisa Humphreys, Nancy and Gene Hutchins, Donald Jeffries, Chris Jones, Pat Jones, Kathy Kane, Danielle Kimbrel, Diane Koop, Kelly Kress, Meredith Langlitz, Rebecca Langrall, Ruth Lee, Mary Leopold, Cynthia Lloyd, Dorothy Lockard, Ellen Looby, Jo Ludwig, Marilyn Marcus, Christy Marshall, Donna McCarrison, Linda McDaniel, Ken McKelvie, Kathleen Maret, Debbie Mason, Cindy Menkins, Harry Mey, Meyer Kay, Mary Ann Meyer, Cynthia Miller, Marian Miller, Nancy Miller, Becky Minogue, Barbara Mitchell, Cindy Mitchell, Gretchen Moser, Susan Murray, Rebecca Now, Jitka Olander, Eileen Pacino, Joyce Patton, Nancy Pawol, Sharon Poe, Sherri Pogue, Carol Portman, Nancy Price, Kathy Quinn, Kathe Quigley, Peggy Robb, Cheryl Roland, Ann Ross, Irma Ruebling, Jennifer Rushing, Anne Sappington, Joe Schartz, Yvonne Schlote, Jo Seltzer, Molly Shaller, Sydell Shayer, Becky Shimony, Judith Smart, Steve Smith, Diann Spencer, Laura Staley, Catherine Stenger, Carol Strawbridge, Claire Stolz, Beth Sturgeon, Elaine Sweeney, Penney Thomas, Lillian Thompson, Pam Todorovich, Sabrina Tyuse, Peggy Voss, Kay Wortman, Sharon Wells, Louise Wilkerson, Sue Williams, Cindy Wunderlich, Macon Wurthmann, Judi Yokum, Iva Youkilis and Rafia Zafar.

Please contact Barbara Harris at volunteer@LWVstl.org if you have time to volunteer in the office. Look for the yellow sign-in sheet on a clipboard by the front desk that we use to track our volunteers’ hours. Let us know if we missed your name and we will thank you in the next newsletter.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REFLECTIONS

The League’s Centennial has given me a fascinating glimpse of the suffragists who founded LWV of Missouri and its many local Leagues. I’m also learning about the many strong women who helped our local League evolve and adapt to changing times. For example, the Citizens Information/Resource Center (CIRC) became the LWV Information Service in 1989. The banquet on Nov. 13 honors 21 past presidents who did amazing work in the city, county or other local League entities.

Many of these leaders are still involved with the League. Elaine Blodgett is one example. She said, “I hope that we keep up the same energy as the first 100 years, and know that voting is always our first job.”

As the 65th program booklet said: “This anniversary is especially significant for St. Louis, where the first League in the United States was born. This celebration commemorates the women who were there at the beginning and those who have carried the torch...to make the League of Women Voters a vital contributor to healthy democracy in the United States.”

— Jean Dugan

This photo of League leadership in 1920 includes Carrie Chapman Catt on the bottom right and Edna Gellhorn in the middle of the back row. Can you identify any of the others?
YOUNG FRIENDS OF THE LEAGUE LAUNCH EVENT

Looking for your place in the League? Come be a part of history in the making. We're launching Young Friends of the League with a strategy session at **7 pm on Tuesday, November 5 at the Mid-County Branch of the St. Louis County Library** in Clayton at 7821 Maryland Avenue. As we head toward a historic election year, the League’s younger members have many opportunities to join in the mission of making democracy work. We invite both members and prospective members alike to come and weigh in on how to shape advocacy, voter services, education initiatives, events and more. We'll wind down by 8 pm. All are welcome to join the group for a drink at a nearby bar afterwards.

Holiday Luncheon is December 7

The next membership event for LWV of Metro St. Louis is the holiday luncheon at Keagan’s at 5173 Clayton Ave. in Forest Park (Formerly Highlands Golf and Tennis Club). The speaker will be announced soon.

The luncheon begins at 11:30 am on Saturday, December 7. The cost is $30. Send a check to the office or pay online at lwvstl.org/events.

Bring an unwrapped children’s book to donate to Grace Hill or Circle of Concern. You can also buy books there.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 5</td>
<td>Young Friends: Mid-County Branch of the St. Louis County Library in Clayton, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>Centennial of St. Louis League: Banquet at the Sheldon Concert Hall, 6 pm</td>
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<td>November 20</td>
<td>Civic Cocktails: Third Wheel Brewing, 4008 N Service Rd, St. Peters, 6 pm</td>
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<td>November 21</td>
<td>LWV of Metro St. Louis Board Meeting, 5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 28-29</td>
<td>Office closed for Thanksgiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Holiday Luncheon at Keagan’s in Forest Park, 11:30 am</td>
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<td>February 14, 2020</td>
<td>National League’s 100th Anniversary</td>
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<td>April 18, 2020</td>
<td>LWV of Metro St. Louis annual meeting at the Heights</td>
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<td>May 3, 2020</td>
<td>League event at Missouri History Museum</td>
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<td>August 26, 2020</td>
<td>Celebrating 100th Anniversary of 19th Amendment and women’s right to vote</td>
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UNIT MEETINGS

**Topic: Medicaid Expansion**

**Chesterfield/Creve Coeur:** Thursday, November 14. Contact: Eve Golden, 314-469-9985 or j.golden@sbcglobal.net

**North County:** Tuesday, November 12. Contact Louise Wilkerson, 314-438-8005 or louisew@sbcglobal.net

**St. Charles:** TBD. Contact Jennifer Rushing, jrush1120@live.com

**St. Louis City:** Saturday, November 9. Contact Kathleen Farrell, 314-773-2876 or kathleenfarrell@earthlink.net

**South County:** No meeting in November. Contact Angie Dunlap, 636-368-6846 or aok2bfast@hotmail.com

**University City/Clayton Unit:** Inactive for the time being. Members are encouraged to attend other units.

**Webster/Kirkwood:** Wednesday, November 13. Contact K Wentzien, 314-961-0894 (home), 314-805-6950 (cell) or suitsme.prodigy.net

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Unless noted, *all meetings below will be held at the League office at 8706 Manchester Rd., Suite 104, Brentwood*

**Centennial:** Friday, November 8, 4:00 pm. Contact: Nancy Miller, 314-961-6869 or njsmill@yahoo.com

**City-County Governance Study Group:** Monday, November 18, 6 pm. Contact: Debby Howard, 314-434-3073 or jackhowe@swbell.net

**Early Voting:** TBD. Contact Joan Hubbard, 314-753-0689 or joanhubbard@prodigy.net

**Education:** TBD. Contact Nancy Miller, 314-961-6869 or njsmill@yahoo.com

**Environmental Quality:** Tuesday, January 28, 1:00 pm. League office. Contact: Mickey Croyle, 314-395-7876 or erwincroyle@charter.net

**Health Care:** Tuesday, October 29, 5:30-7:00 pm. Contact: Irma Ruebling, 314-330-9063 or irma.ruebling@slu.edu

**National Popular Vote:** Tuesday, November 18, 1:30 pm. *Meet at 709 Champeix Ln., Creve Coeur.* Contact: Sydell Shayer, 314-434-5116 or slshayer@gmail.com

**Policing Study Group:** Friday, November 15, 3:00 pm. Contact: Mary Leopold, 314-991-5958 or mary.muldoon.leopold@gmail.com
League volunteers register voters with UMS Campus Election Engagement Project fellow Ryan Moser.

Louise Wilkerson joined Denise Lieberman and Joyce Bluett on an AAUW Voting Rights panel to a revved-up group in Ferguson.